

AmeriCorps

Creative Staffing for Medical Reserve Corps Units

Prepared by

Lauren Bateman, UVA MRC AmeriCorps Member

Judy Marston, VA Department of Health Volunteer Coordinator

Jennifer Freeland, Peninsula MRC Coordinator

Lorie Ros, Rappahannock MRC AmeriCorps Member

Michael Marino, Alexandria MRC AmeriCorps Member



What Will We Talk About...

- ★ What is the AmeriCorps Program
- ★ AmeriCorps Program for VA MRCs
- ★ How to get an AmeriCorps Member
- ★ How to administer the program
- ★ How AmeriCorps members work in MRC units



USA Freedom Corps



President Bush created USA Freedom Corps (USAFC) to build on the countless acts of service, sacrifice, and generosity that followed September 11th. When he announced USAFC in his 2002 State of the Union Address, President Bush called on all Americans to serve a cause greater than themselves.



The Impact of the USA Freedom Corps



Over the past four years, USAFC has helped Americans answer that call, and the American people are responding. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 65.4 million Americans volunteered in 2005.



Freedom Corps Umbrella



Corporation for National Community Service



CNCS, an independent federal agency, provides financial support for a wide range of service opportunities funded by Congress and other local and private partners.

AmeriCorps members support hundreds of local and state programs.



Corporation for National Community Service



In a speech at the Centers for Disease Control in November 2001, President Bush specifically charged the Corporation with "creating new opportunities within the AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs for public safety and public health efforts."



AmeriCorps

Program Overview –

- ★ Since 1994, more than 40,000 volunteers have participated
- ★ Network of local, state, and national service programs
- ★ Programs in education, public safety, health and environmental needs



AmeriCorps*VISTA

Program Overview –

- ★ Volunteers in Service to America
- ★ Full-time members
- ★ Capacity-building
- ★ Bring low-income individuals and communities out of poverty
- ★ Indirect service activities



AmeriCorps*State

Program Overview -

- ★ Direct service activities
- ★ Capacity-building
- ★ Full- and part-time for one year or during the summer



AmeriCorps in Virginia

Virginia Community Corps (VCC) is an AmeriCorps*State program funded through the Virginia Governor's Commission on National and Community Service and managed by staff at the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS).



AmeriCorps in Virginia

The purpose of AmeriCorps in Virginia is to contribute to the social services system strategic vision to promote self-sufficiency for low-income families, increase and improve access to high quality services and support, and mobilize other volunteers in the community.



Virginia AmeriCorps Members

MRCs in Virginia currently have 4 AmeriCorps members serving units across the state. AmeriCorps members coordinate, educate and facilitate people and activities related to these programs.



Recruitment

Recruitment for members is decentralized and hiring decisions are made locally at each site. Recruitment Tools include:

- ☆ AmeriCorps website
- ☆ Colleges and universities
- ☆ Public Schools
- ☆ Health and Social Service agencies
- ☆ List serves
- ☆ Local newspapers
- ☆ On line recruitment forums, etc.



Recruitment Incentives and Compensation

Recruitment incentives for members include:

- ★ Career Development/Exposure
- ★ Education Award
- ★ Living Allowances
- ★ Health Care Coverage
- ★ Networking opportunities



Full-time Corps Members

Full-time AmeriCorps members will serve for 1700 hours over a 9 to 12 month period and earn a \$10,900 (min.) to 21,800 (max) living allowance, health insurance, subsidized child care if needed and an Education Award worth \$4725.



Part-time Corps Members

Part-time members may serve 900 hours (or less) and earn half or a portion of the stipend and Ed. Award. Other benefits include educational loan forbearance and training & development opportunities.



Program Administration

- ★ Grant Process/RFP
- ★ Funding and Matches
- ★ Supervision and Compensation
- ★ Reporting
- ★ Performance Measurement and Evaluation
- ★ Program Continuation



The Role of AmeriCorps Members in MRC Units

★ Coordinator

- Perform all coordinator duties

★ Assistant

- Administrative support
- Represent the MRC
- Recruit college students



Supervising AmeriCorps Members

- ★ Monthly Reports
- ★ Hourly Requirements
- ★ Paperwork
- ★ Work Performance
- ★ Define Expectations



Developing AmeriCorps Members

- ★ Mentoring
- ★ Training
- ★ Career
Exposure/Experience
- ★ Networking



Why AmeriCorps & MRCs?

- ★ Demonstrates the willingness to collaborate with state & federal agencies
- ★ MRC units can more effectively & efficiently fulfill their mission
- ★ Who doesn't need help?



Did you get it all?

- ★ What is the AmeriCorps Program
- ★ AmeriCorps program for VA MRCs
- ★ How to get an AmeriCorps Member
- ★ How to administer the Program
- ★ How AmeriCorps members work in MRC units



Useful Links

To learn more about National Service and AmeriCorps visit:

- The Corporation for National and Community Service - www.nationalservice.org
- National Service Resource Center - www.nationalserviceresources.org
- AmeriCorps - www.americorps.org



Contact Information

Contact your State Office of the
Corporation for National and
Community Service
[www. americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov)



Contact Us

- ☆ **Lauren Bateman** lrb3v@virginia.edu
- ☆ **Judy Marston** Judy.Martson@vdh.virginia.gov
- ☆ **Jennifer Freeland** Jennifer.Freeland@vdh.virginia.gov
- ☆ **Lorie Ros** Lorie.Ros@vdh.virginia.gov
- ☆ **Michael Marino** Michael.Marino@vdh.virginia.gov

